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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 09/488,976 | 01/21/2000 | William J. Baer | STL000014US1 | 5177 |
| 23373 | 7590 | 12/21/2005 | EXAMINER | |
| SUGHRUE MION, PLLC 2100 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W. SUITE 800 WASHINGTON, DC 20037 | | | PHAM, HUNG Q | |
| | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | | 2168 | |

DATE MAILED: 12/21/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
| | 09/488,976 | BAER ET AL. | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | HUNG Q. PHAM | 2168 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 October 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

- Applicants have amended claims 1, 4, 9 and 12. The objection of claims 1, 4, 9 and 12 has been withdrawn.

- Applicants have amended claims 1-8. The rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 101 of claims 1-8, 17-26, 29 and 30 has been withdrawn.

- Applicants' arguments with respect to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, of claim 31 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In particular,

page 8, lines 14-19, page 9, lines 7-11 of the specification, and FIG. 3 do not have efficient description for the claimed storing said custom content object in said one or more object servers (the provided pages and lines describe the technique of storing digital objects or *user- provided content*, not *custom content object*, and these digital objects are used to compile a *custom content object*, e.g., a custom textbook, as illustrated at page 6, lines 22-25).

page 10, lines 10-15, does not have efficient description for the claimed storing attribute information concerning the custom content object in said one or more object servers (the provided page and lines describe the technique of storing attribute of digital objects or *user- provided content*, and these digital objects are used to compile a *custom content object*, e.g., a custom textbook, as illustrated at page 6, lines 22-25).

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page 8, lines 20-23, page 12, lines 1-5 and page 39, lines 1-5 and FIG. 3 contains library server 44 do not have efficient description for the claimed *storing information specifying the custom content object and the attribute information in the library server* (the provided page and lines describe the technique of storing information and attribute information of digital objects or *user- provided content*, and these digital objects are used to compile a *custom content object*, e.g., a custom textbook, as illustrated at page 6, lines 22-25).

Therefore, the rejection of claim 31 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, is maintained.

- Applicant's arguments with respect to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103 of claims 1-31 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Objections

- Claims 1, 9 and 17 are objected to because of the following informalities: *the list* in the step of adding the identifier (in order to have a consistency of terminology, *the list of content entity identifiers* should be used). Appropriate correction is required.
- Claims 4, 12 and 20 are objected to because of the following informalities: *the outline* in the step of adding the identifier (in order to have a consistency of

terminology, *the hierarchical outline of containers and content entity identifiers* should be used).

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Vaughn [ezWriter 2.0 for Window].

Regarding claim 1, 9 and 17, Vaughn teaches *a computer-implemented method for adding user-provided content to a content object stored as a plurality of content entities in a data repository* (*user-provided content*, e.g., the content as shown on the right hand side of page 2, is added to *content object stored as a plurality of content entities in a data repository*, e.g., “Welcome to ezWriter” as shown in the screenshot of page 15) comprising the steps of:

having a user defining the content object by a list of content entity identifiers (page 7, The ezWriter File, paragraph 3, and the left hand side of page 7);

receiving user-provided content (page 4, the content of “Introduction” is received by typing into the right hand side panel), *assigning it an identifier* (page 2, “Introduction” is the

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identifier), *and storing it with its identifier in the data repository* (page 15, "Introduction" is stored as text file in C drive); and

adding the identifier of the user-provided content to the list (page 8, How to Add Entries to the Outline), *whereby the user-provided content is added to the content object* (e.g., page 4, the content of "Introduction" is added to "Welcome to ezWriter"),

wherein the user-provided content is content supplied or created by the user (e.g., the content as shown on the right hand side of page 2).

Regarding claims 2, 10 and 18, Vaughn teaches all the claim subject matters as discussed above with respect to claims 1, 9 and 17, Vaughn reference further comprising the step of *receiving a user-provided location for inserting the identifier of the user-provided content into the content object, and inserting the identifier into the list at that location* (the screenshot of page 9).

Regarding claims 3, 11 and 19, Vaughn teaches all the claim subject matters as discussed above with respect to claims 2, 10 and 18, Vaughn reference further comprising the steps of *providing a user interface communicating with the data repository, and providing mechanisms for receiving the user-provided content and specification of a desired location through the user interface* (pages 9 and 10, How the ezWriter File Works).

Regarding claims 4, 12 and 20, Vaughn teaches *a computer-implemented method for adding user-provided content to a hierarchically structured content object stored as a plurality of content entities in a data repository* (user-provided content, e.g., the content as shown on the right hand side of

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page 2, is added to *a hierarchically structured content object stored as a plurality of content entities in a data repository*, e.g., "Welcome to ezWriter" as shown in the screenshot of page 15), comprising the steps of:

having a user defining the content object by a hierarchical outline of containers and content entity identifiers (page 7, The ezWriter File, paragraph 3, and the left hand side of page 7);

receiving user-provided content (page 4, the content of "Introduction" is received by typing into the right hand side panel), *assigning it an identifier* (page 2, "Introduction" is the identifier), and *storing it with its identifier in the data repository* (page 15, "Introduction" is stored as text file in C drive); and

adding the identifier of the user-provided content to the outline (page 8, How to Add Entries to the Outline), *thereby adding the user-provided content to the content object* (e.g., page 4, the content of "Introduction" is added to "Welcome to ezWriter"),

wherein the user-provided content is content supplied or created by the user (e.g., the content as shown on the right hand side of page 2).

Regarding claims 5, 13 and 21, Vaughn teaches all the claim subject matters as discussed above with respect to claims 4, 12 and 20, the Vaughn reference further comprising the step of *receiving a user-provided location for inserting the identifier of the user-provided content into the content object, and inserting the identifier into the outline at that location* (the screenshot of page 9).

Regarding claims 6, 14 and 22, Vaughn teaches all the claim subject matters as discussed above with respect to claims 4, 12 and 20, Vaughn further discloses *the user-provided content comprises a content entity* (page 7, the left hand side).

Regarding claims 7, 15 and 23, Vaughn teaches all the claim subject matters as discussed above with respect to claims 4, 12 and 20, Vaughn further discloses *the user-provided content comprises a container* (page 7, the left hand side).

Regarding claims 8, 16 and 24, Vaughn teaches all the claim subject matters as discussed above with respect to claims 5, 13 and 21, Vaughn reference further comprising the steps of *providing a user interface communicating with the data repository, and providing mechanisms for receiving the user-provided content and specification of a desired location through the user interface* (pages 9 and 10, How the ezWriter File Works).

Regarding claims 25-30, Vaughn teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claims 1, 24, 9, 12, 17 and 20, Vaughn further discloses *the received user-provided content is not part of the content object* (Screenshot of page 15) *and wherein the plurality of content entities define the content object as a compilation of related content* (Screenshot of page 9).

Regarding claim 31, Vaughn teaches *a computer-implemented method for adding user-provided content to a custom content object stored as a plurality of content entities in a digital library having a library server, and one or more object servers* (user-provided content, e.g., the content as shown on the right hand side of page 2, is added to *a custom content object stored as a plurality of content entities in*

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a digital library having a library server, and one or more object servers, e.g., "Welcome to ezWriter" as shown in the screenshot of page 15), the method comprising the steps of:

defining the custom content object by a list of content entity identifiers (page 7, The ezWriter File, paragraph 3, and the left hand side of page 7);

receiving user-provided content (page 4, the content of "Introduction" is received by typing into the right hand side panel), assigning it an identifier (page 2, "Introduction" is the identifier), and storing it with its identifier in the one or more object servers (page 15, "Introduction" is stored as text file in C:\Program File\ezWriter as object server); and

adding the identifier of the user-provided content to the list (page 8, How to Add Entries to the Outline), whereby the user-provided content is added to the custom content object (e.g., page 4, the content of "Introduction" is added to "Welcome to ezWriter");

storing said custom content object in said one ore more object servers ("Welcome to ezWriter" is stored in folder "\ezWriter" as object server);

storing attribute information concerning the custom content object in said one or more object servers (file name, e.g., Introduction.rtf, as attribute information concerning the custom content object is stored in folder "\ezWriter" as object server); and

storing information specifying the custom content object and the attribute information in the library server (file name, e.g., "Welcome to ezWriter.ezw" as information specifying the custom content object, and file name, e.g., Introduction.rtf, as attribute information is stored in folder "Program File \ezWriter" as library server).


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Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HUNG Q. PHAM whose telephone number is 571-272-4040. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, JEFFREY A. GAFFIN can be reached on 571-272-4146. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


HUNG Q PHAM
Examiner
Art Unit 2168

December 15, 2005